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Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council

Letter dated 29 June 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

In my capacity as Chair of the group of Western European and other States for the month of June 2016, I have the honour to inform you that Italy and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, in view of the inconclusive results of the elections for the last remaining non-permanent seat on the Security Council for the Western European and other States for the term 2017-2018, have agreed to split this term.

To this effect, the Kingdom of the Netherlands has withdrawn its candidacy in favour of Italy. Italy is the endorsed and only candidate of the Western European and other States. Subject to election at a forthcoming plenary meeting of the General Assembly, Italy shall serve as a non-permanent member of the Security Council as from 1 January 2017. Italy shall subsequently relinquish its seat on the Council at the end of the day of 31 December 2017. In accordance with rule 140 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, a by-election will need to be held to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term 2017-2018. The Western European and other States will request that this by-election be held at the same time as the regular elections for five non-permanent members of the Council in June 2017.

For this by-election, the Kingdom of the Netherlands is the endorsed and only candidate of the Western European and other States. Subject to election by the General Assembly, the Kingdom of the Netherlands shall fulfil the remainder of the 2017-2018 term of a non-permanent member of the Security Council as from 1 January 2018.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 112 (a).

(*Signed*) May-Elin **Stener**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

16-11214 (E) 290616

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